

100TH CONGRESS }  
1st Session }

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT  
100-306

## CONTINUING RESOLUTION, 1988

SEPTEMBER 17, 1987.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. WHITTEN, by direction of the Committee on Appropriations,  
submitted the following

### REPORT

[To accompany H.J. Res. 362]

The accompanying joint resolution provides temporary, restrictive financing not to exceed the current level for the fiscal year 1988 which begins October 1, 1987 for programs covered under the thirteen regular appropriations bills. No extraneous issues are included in this resolution. The provisions of this continuing resolution apply until November 10, 1987, or until the regular annual appropriations bills are enacted into law, whichever comes first.

#### STATUS OF APPROPRIATIONS BILLS

The House has passed the following appropriations bills for fiscal year 1988:

- Energy and Water Development on June 24;
- Interior and Related Agencies on June 25;
- District of Columbia on June 26;
- Legislative Branch on June 29;
- Commerce, Justice, and State on July 1;
- Transportation and Related Agencies on July 13;
- Military Construction on July 14;
- Treasury-Postal Service on July 15; and
- Labor-Health and Human Services-Education on August 5.

The Committee reported the HUD-Independent Agencies Appropriations Bill on June 25 and the Foreign Assistance Appropriations Bill on August 6. They are awaiting floor action.

Hearings were completed on the Rural Development, Agriculture, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill on April 8, and on the Defense Appropriations Bill on May 7. These bills are awaiting further action.

*old  
version*

To date the Senate has not passed any of the appropriations bills. Because of this, the outlook is that it will require some time beyond October 1 for these bills to be handled in conference.

A termination date of November 10, 1987, is therefore proposed in the continuing resolution in order to allow time for further regular congressional action on the 1988 appropriations bills.

#### BASIS FOR THE CONTINUING RESOLUTION

This continuing resolution provides for twelve regular appropriations bills at a single rate of funding by maintaining the "current rate" of operations for this interim period which will allow for the smooth and continuous operations of the government until final appropriations decisions are agreed upon by the Congress and the administration. The "current rate" of operations embraces funding provided for twelve of the regular appropriations bills contained in Public Law 99-591 as well as the fiscal year 1987 supplemental appropriations bills. For the Foreign Assistance Appropriations bill, the rate of operations shall not be in excess of the current rate or the rate provided for in the budget estimate, whichever is lower. This is done to conform with the 302(b) allocation required by the Budget Act.

The Committee emphasizes that the language contained in section 101(a) of the resolution continues the *current terms and conditions* which are in effect during this current fiscal year for the duration of this resolution.

In adopting this resolution the Committee wishes to point out that the resolution as reported is "clean" of extraneous matter. The Committee strongly believes that this approach, unencumbered of new additional provisions, offers the best hope of achieving speedy Congressional and Executive approval and avoiding unnecessary governmental disruptions, payless paydays, suspension of activities, and needless expense to the Nation.

#### LEVELS OF FUNDING UNDER THE RESOLUTION

Section 101 of the accompanying resolution provides interim funding at a rate of operations not in excess of the current rate of operations and under the current terms and conditions in effect during fiscal year 1987 for the following 13 regular appropriations bills:

- The Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1987, and section 1241(a)(1) of Public Law 99-198;

- The Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1987, notwithstanding section 15(a) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 and section 701 of the United States Information and Educational Exchange Act of 1948, as amended;

- The Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 1987;

- The District of Columbia Appropriations Act, 1987;

- The Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 1987;

- The Foreign Assistance and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1987, notwithstanding section 10 of Public Law 91-

672 and section 15(a) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956: *Provided*, That the rate for operations shall not be in excess of the current rate or the rate provided for in the budget estimate, whichever is lower;

The Department of Housing and Urban Development-Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1987;

The Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1987;

The Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1987, and section 101(n) of Public Laws 99-500 and 99-591;

The Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1987;

The Military Construction Appropriations Act, 1987, except for section 206 of such Act;

The Department of Transportation and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1987; and

The Department of Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government Appropriations Act, 1987.

The resolution also prohibits any new starts (section 101(a)(2)) from beginning during this interim time period.

#### TERMINATION DATE

Section 102 of the resolution provides that funds made available by this resolution continue to be available until November 10, 1987 or until the enactment of the regular appropriations Acts.

The Committee continues to be dedicated to the principle of financing Federal programs under the traditional authorization and appropriations process which includes individual appropriations bills. Therefore, it will continue its efforts to get regular bills enacted as soon as possible.

The Committee emphasizes that when regular bills are signed into law, the provisions of the continuing resolution automatically disengage and the regular appropriations bills then become the funding device. This continuing resolution in no way precludes subsequent enactment into law of the regular appropriations bills.

#### OTHER TECHNICAL PROVISIONS OF THE RESOLUTION

The accompanying joint resolution carries the usual necessary technical provisions including those relating to obligations or expenditures made during the duration of the continuing resolution, and modification of apportionment procedure to accommodate certain existing provisions of law.

#### INFLATIONARY IMPACT STATEMENT

Clause 2(l)(4) of rule XI of the House of Representatives requires that each Committee report on a bill or resolution shall contain a statement as to whether enactment of such bill or resolution may have an inflationary impact on prices and costs in the operation of the national economy.

The rates prescribed by section 101(a) of the accompanying joint resolution are not to exceed existing levels of fiscal year 1987 appropriations which have heretofore been enacted by the Congress and which have been determined not to have an inflationary

impact upon the operation of the economy. Therefore, the Committee believes that enactment of this joint resolution will have no significant inflationary impact on the national economy.

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